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Approved For Release 2005/11/23 : CIA-RDP80M01133A000500100026-5

26 November 1975

NOTE FOR : General Wilson

SUBJECT : DCI Response to Secretary Clements, re D/NRO as an ex officio Member of Committee for Civil Applications of Classified Overhead Photography of the US

1. This reports disposition of the action which you assigned to COMIREX to prepare a DCI response to Secretary Clements' memorandum (5 November 1975, received DCI 12 November 1975).

2. As I indicated to you yesterday, it does not appear that a DCI response to the Clements' memorandum will be necessary. A memorandum is being sent from Brent Scowcroft to the Secretary of Interior advising that the Under Secretary of the Air Force will be an observer to the Civil Applications Committee. Copies will go to Defense, DCI, and OMB.

3. This approach came out of discussions with the NRO, NSC, and OMB Staffs in which it was apparent that for simplicity, a single response reflecting joint views was desirable and feasible. It turned out that the only substantive question was whether the NRO should be represented as an ex officio member or as an observer. There was agreement, including from the NRO, that an observer was preferred. From the beginning of planning for the civil committee, it has been assumed that the NRO would be represented at the committee, but with a low profile because of security considerations. An observer would attend all meetings, receive minutes and documents, and maintain cognizance of all activities involved.

4. After the Scowcroft memorandum arrives, the Director should be advised that it represents a coordinated reply to the Clements' memorandum and that a separate response by him is not necessary unless he desires to for some other reason.

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October 3, 1975

MEMORANDUM FOR

The Secretary of Defense
The Secretary of Interior
The Secretary of Agriculture
The Secretary of Commerce
The Administrator, National Aeronautics
and Space Administration
The Administrator, Environmental Protection
Agency
The Chief of Engineers, United States Army

SUBJECT: Establishment of the Committee for Civil Applications
of Classified Overhead Photography of the United States

The President has noted that the Commission on CIA Activities Within the United States in discussing classified overhead photography of the United States concluded that it can find no impropriety in permitting continued civilian use of such photography and that economy dictates the use of the photographs for appropriate civilian purposes. Accordingly, the President has directed the establishment of a civilian agency committee to oversee civilian uses of classified overhead photography taken over the United States.

To implement the President's decision, the following actions are to be taken:

1. The Secretary of Interior will form a Committee for Civil Applications of Classified Overhead Photography of the United States which will:
 - receive, evaluate, consolidate, standardize, establish priorities and transmit to the Director of Central Intelligence (DCI) all requests for such photography from domestic civilian agencies;
 - facilitate civilian agencies' use of classified systems and coordinate the incorporation of photography, derived data, and technology in performance of domestic civilian functions;

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BY AUTH -Henry A. Kissinger

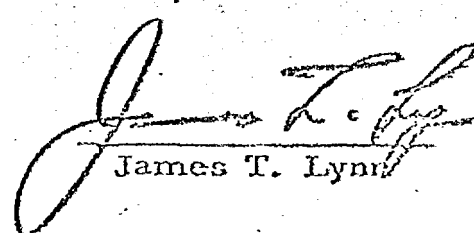
- supply information to civilian agencies so that they may knowledgeably formulate requests and reach compromises between requests and capabilities;
- act as the interface between civilian agencies and intelligence collectors, recognizing that the Director of Central Intelligence will not be involved in judgments concerning civil agency needs or priorities and that collection for this purpose will remain incidental to foreign intelligence collection;
- oversee civilian agency uses of classified photography in a manner designed to avoid any concerns that domestic photographic coverage is being used improperly.

In performing all of the above activities, the Committee will be subject to guidelines established by the President.

2. The committee will be chaired by the representative of the Department of Interior and will consist of representatives of the Departments of Agriculture and Commerce, the National Aeronautics and Space Administration, the Corps of Engineers and the Environmental Protection Agency. Membership may be expanded at the discretion of the Committee.
3. The Director of Central Intelligence will designate a representative to serve ex officio on the Committee for the purpose of liaison with the intelligence community, to assist in obtaining domestic photographic coverage, to address issues concerned with the use of classified products, and to facilitate the acquisition of security clearances for users. Since civil usage of data is enhanced if unclassified, the DCI's representative will be an intermediary on questions concerning release of classified information from security controls, as appropriate.


Henry A. Kissinger


William E. Colby


James T. Lynn

THE DIRECTOR OF CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE

WASHINGTON, D. C. 20505

MEMORANDUM FOR: The Secretary of Interior.

SUBJECT : Committee for Civil Applications of
Classified Overhead Photography of
the United States

REFERENCE : Joint Memorandum Establishing the Committee
for Civil Applications, dated 3 October 1975

I have designated , Chairman of the United States Intelligence Board's Committee on Imagery Requirements and Exploitation, as my representative to receive and act on all requests from the subject Committee for classified overhead photography of the United States, and to serve ex officio on the Committee for the purposes indicated in paragraph 3 of the reference memorandum.

STAT

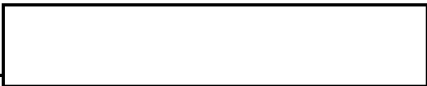
W. E. Colby

cc: *the* Special Assistant to the President
for National Security Affairs
Director, Office of Management and
Budget

SUBJECT: Committee for Civil Applications of
Classified Overhead Photography of
the United States

CONCUR:

STAT


Acting Deputy Director for Intelligence

10 Oct. '75
Date

STAT


for Deputy Director for Science and Technology

10 Oct. '75
Date

Note For : Mr. Knoche *Elk*
Gen Wilson

I spoke to []
about the classification of this
memo (or lack thereof). He
said that this was an issue
that had been handled by []
[] who put the "SECRET"
classification on the 3 October
memo after the DCI signed it.
[] feels that the memo is
unclassified and recommends
that we send it forward
that way.

al

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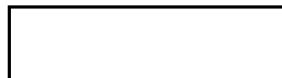
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11-26-75

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is advising you

STAT

formally about the request
from Clements to have NRO
sit on the new interagency
Committee for Civil Applications
of Classified Overhead Photography
of the U.S.

If you concur, no action
on your part is necessary.

OK- [Signature]

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